



Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office

Operations Directorate — Fact Sheet

Personnel Recovery Definition

ISSUE: Definition of the term personnel recovery

DISCUSSION: The aggregation of military, civil, and political efforts to recover captured, detained, evading, isolated or missing personnel from uncertain or hostile environments and denied areas. Personnel recovery may occur through military action, action by non-governmental organizations, other U.S. Government (USG)-approved action, and diplomatic initiatives, or through any combination of these options. Though personnel recovery may occur during non-combatant evacuation operations (NEO), NEO is not a subset of personnel recovery.